

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A developing device comprising:

a first developer carrying member for carrying a  
developer to develop a latent image formed on an image  
5 bearing member;

a first regulating member, disposed on one end of  
a longitudinal direction of said image bearing member,  
for regulating a gap between said image bearing member  
and said first developer carrying member;

10 a second developer carrying member for carrying a  
developer to develop the same latent image formed on  
said image bearing member; and

a second regulating member, disposed on said one  
end of said longitudinal direction of said image  
15 bearing member, for regulating a gap between said image  
bearing member and said second developer carrying  
member,

wherein said first regulating member and said  
second regulating member are disposed without  
20 overlapping each other in said longitudinal direction.

2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the  
same latent image formed on said image bearing member  
is developed by said first developer carrying member,  
25 and subsequently developed by said second developer  
carrying member.

3. The device according to claim 2, wherein the developer on said second developer carrying member has a layer thickness regulated in a gap between said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member.

4. The device according to claim 3, wherein a rotation direction of said first developer carrying member is the same as a rotation direction of said second developer carrying member.

5. The device according to claim 4, wherein a movement direction of surface of said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member is the same as a movement direction of a surface of said image bearing member in a developing portion.

6. The device according to claim 5, wherein a peripheral speed of said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member is higher than a peripheral speed of said image bearing member in said developing portion.

7. The device according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said first regulating member and said second regulating member abut on said image bearing member.

8. An image forming apparatus comprising:

a first developer carrying member for carrying a developer to develop a latent image formed on an image bearing member;

5 a first regulating member, disposed on one end of a longitudinal direction of said image bearing member, for regulating a gap between said image bearing member and said first developer carrying member;

10 a second developer carrying member for carrying a developer to develop the same latent image formed on said image bearing member; and

15 a second regulating member, disposed on said one end of said longitudinal direction of said image bearing member, for regulating a gap between said image bearing member and said second developer carrying member,

wherein said first regulating member and said second regulating member are disposed without overlapping each other in said longitudinal direction.

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9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the same latent image formed on said image bearing member is developed by said first developer carrying member, and subsequently developed by said second developer carrying member.

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10. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein

the developer on said second developer carrying member has a layer thickness regulated in a gap between said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member.

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11. The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a rotation direction of said first developer carrying member is the same as a rotation direction of said second developer carrying member.

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12. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein a movement direction of surfaces of said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member is the same as a movement direction of a surface of said image bearing member in a developing portion.

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13. The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a peripheral speed of said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member is higher than a peripheral speed of said image bearing member in said developing portion.

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14. The device according to any one of claims 8 to 13, wherein said first regulating member and said second regulating member abut on said image bearing member.

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15. A developing device comprising:

a first developer carrying member, rotatably supported by a main body of said developing device, for carrying a developer to develop a latent image formed on an image bearing member;

a first regulating member, disposed on one end of a longitudinal direction of said image bearing member, for regulating a gap between said image bearing member and said first developer carrying member;

a second developer carrying member for carrying a developer to develop the same latent image formed on said image bearing member;

a second regulating member, disposed on said one end of said longitudinal direction of said image bearing member, for regulating a gap between said image bearing member and said second developer carrying member; and

a rocking member for pivotally moving said second developer carrying member about a portion near an end of said first developer carrying member, said rocking member pivotally supporting said second developer carrying member.

16. The device according to claim 15, further comprising pressing means for pressing said rocking member toward said image bearing member.

17. The device according to claim 15, further comprising a gap regulating member for regulating a gap between said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member.

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